[7th December 1954

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Nil.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" தென் ஆற்காடு மாவட்டத்தில் தேசிய விஸ்தரிப்பு வேலைகளில் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு எவ்வளவு பணம் செலவழிக்கிறார்கள் ? எத்தனைப்பேர்களை அமர்த்தியிருக்கிறார்கள் ? காதி உண்டியல் வாங்கினால் தான் தக்காவி கடன் கொடுக்கப்படும் என்ற நிபந்தனையை அதிகாரிகள் உபயோகிக்கிறார்களா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I am sorry I cannot give any information in reply to the question that has been framed and put by the hon. Member."

Experiment on artificial rain-making.

* 273 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government are going to conduct any experiment for artificial rain for the State as announced by Mr. A. R. Venkatachari, Chief Engineer, in the Chief Engineers' Conference at Madras on the 30th May 1954?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The question of conducting experiments on artificial rain-making is under the consideration of this Government and no final decision has yet been taken in the matter."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" When will that be conducted, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, experiments are being conducted not only in this country, but also in the United States of America, Canada, East Africa, Australia, etc., and nowhere has the experiment been finalized. Our Government have been doing it here in their own way without much of expenditure."

Development of cottage industries.

* 274 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of cottage industries started by the Government in the year 1953 and the amount spent thereon ;

(*b*) the extent of lands given to the managements of cottage industries in 1953 ; and

(*c*) the amount granted to cottage industries by way of subsidy in the year 1953?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The Government have not started in the State any new cottage industry departmentally in the year 1953. But about 35 cottage industries have been revived in that year. A total amount of Rs. 1,050 has been disbursed to artisans as loan for the development of these industries.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Nil, Sir."